

Hebrews.

A translation.



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## Hebrews.

*Jesus became greater than the angels.*

He spoke to us through his son.

<sup>1</sup> At different times and in many ways, God spoke before to our fathers through the prophets. <sup>2</sup> Lately, he spoke to us through his son.

He made him heir of everything. He created the universe through him.

<sup>3</sup> He beams with his glory. He is marked with his nature. He also produces everything by his mighty word. He purified our sins. "He sat down at the right side" (Psalm 110:1) of his majesty on high.

He became greater than the angels.

<sup>4</sup> He became so much greater than the angels. He has inherited an even better name than them.

<sup>5</sup> What angel did he ever tell,

You are my son.

I gave birth to you today. (Psalm 2:7)

Or, again,

I will be his father.

He will be my son. (2 Samuel 7:14)

<sup>6</sup> Again, when he brought the firstborn into the world, he said,

All the angels of God must bow down to him (Psalm 97:7).

<sup>7</sup> He told the angels,

He made his angels become the winds.

He turned his servants into a fiery flame. (Psalm 104:4)

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Jesus became greater than the angels.    He became greater than the angels.

<sup>8</sup> But, to his son, he said,  
 Your throne, dear God, lasts forever and ever.  
 Your righteous staff is the staff of your kingdom.  
<sup>9</sup> You loved righteousness. You hated lawlessness.  
 That is why God, your God, anointed you  
 with happy oil in the presence of your friends. (Psalm 45:6-7)

<sup>10</sup> Also,  
 From the beginning, lord, you established the earth.  
 The heavens are the product of your hands.  
<sup>11</sup> They will be destroyed, but you still remain.  
 They will all wear out like clothing.  
<sup>12</sup> You will roll them up like a robe.  
 You will replace them like a coat.  
 But, you are the same.  
 Your life will not end. (Psalms 102:25-27)

<sup>13</sup> But, to which angel has he ever said,  
 Sit on my right side  
 until I turn your enemies into a footstool for your feet (Psalm  
 110:1)?

<sup>14</sup> Are they not serving spirits with a purpose, sent for those who will  
 inherit salvation?

Pay careful attention.

<sup>21</sup> This is why it is even more necessary for us to pay careful attention  
 to the matters we heard, so that we might never drift away. <sup>2</sup> For if the  
 speech of angels was firm, and every error and disobedience got its fair  
 reward, <sup>3</sup> then how can we escape if we ignore such a great salvation?

It began when the lord spoke it. Those who heard confirmed it for us.  
<sup>4</sup> God confirms it with both signs, wonders, various miracles, and por-  
 tions of the holy spirit, according to his plan. <sup>5</sup> For he did not make the  
 future world subject to angels—we are speaking about that world.

He submitted everything.

<sup>6</sup>Someone warned somewhere,

What is a man that anyone should remember him?

Or, the son of a man, that anyone should care about him?

<sup>7</sup>You placed him a little lower than angels.

But, you rewarded him with glory and honor.

<sup>8</sup>You submitted everything under his feet. (Psalm 8:4-6)

When he “submitted *everything*,” he left no exceptions. But, we do not yet see “*everything* submissive” to him right now.

<sup>9</sup>But, by “being placed a little lower than the angels,” we see Jesus in his deadly suffering. “He was rewarded with glory and honor,” so that he could taste death for the sake of everyone, by the favor of God.

<sup>10</sup>This was appropriate for him. Everything exists by him. Everything exists through him. The founder of their salvation led many sons to glory. He completed them through suffering. <sup>11</sup>Both the one who makes them holy, and also everyone made holy, all come from the same place.

He became like his brothers.

For this reason, he is not ashamed to call them brothers,

<sup>12</sup>I will proclaim your name to my brothers.

I will sing about you in the middle of the congregation. (Psalm 22:22)

<sup>13</sup>Again,

I will trust in him. (Isaiah 8:17)

Also,

Look at me and my children.

God gave them to me. (Isaiah 8:18).

<sup>14</sup>Therefore, since the children share flesh and blood, he similarly shares with them. Then through death he could destroy the one who has power over death. Namely, it is the Opposer.

<sup>15</sup>Then he could set them free. Everyone is bound into slavery by the fear of death during their entire life. <sup>16</sup>For he certainly is not concerned with angels. Instead, he is concerned with the offspring of Abraham.

<sup>17</sup>Therefore, he was obligated to become like his brothers in every way, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest regarding mat-

ters of God. He reconciled the sins of the people.<sup>18</sup> By having personally suffered through trial, he could help those who are tested.

*He was greater than Moses.*

*Moses was faithful over his house.*

<sup>3</sup> Holy brothers, since we share in our heavenly invitation, consider the representative and high priest of our confession, Jesus.<sup>2</sup> He is faithful to the one who appointed him, just like Moses was over his own house.<sup>3</sup> He was considered worthy of greater glory than Moses. The builder is more respected than the house, by most accounts.<sup>4</sup> For every house is built by somebody, but God built them all.

<sup>5</sup> “Moses was faithful over his entire house like a servant”  
(Numbers 12:7).

This will be spoken about in the future as a testimony.<sup>6</sup> The messiah was like a son over his house. We are his house, if we hang on to our confidence and pride of hope.

*Do not harden your hearts.*

<sup>7</sup> Therefore, just like the holy spirit says,  
If can you hear his voice today,  
<sup>8</sup> then do not harden your hearts  
like they did in the rebellion,  
during the time of temptation in the desert.  
<sup>9</sup> Your fathers tried to test me.  
Then they saw my actions<sup>10</sup> for forty years.  
So, I became upset with this generation.  
I said, ‘Their hearts are constantly deceived.  
They did not know my ways.’  
<sup>11</sup> So I swore by my Anger,  
‘They will never enter my resting place.’ (Psalm 95:7-11)

<sup>16</sup> Watch out, brothers—nobody should ever have an evil, unbelieving heart, to leave the living God.<sup>13</sup> Instead, encourage each other every day, as long as it is called ‘Today’, so that none of you will become hardened by the sneakiness of sin.<sup>14</sup> We became partners with the messiah, if we

can really keep our first commitment solid to the end.<sup>15</sup> This is why it was said,

If can you hear his voice today,  
then do not harden your hearts,  
like they did in the rebellion” (Psalm 95:7-8).

<sup>16</sup> Among those who heard this, who rebelled (Numbers 14:1-4)? Was it not everyone who left Egypt with Moses? <sup>17</sup> Whom was he angry with for forty years? Was it not those who sinned? (Numbers 14:33-35) “Their corpses died in the desert” (Numbers 14:29). <sup>18</sup> Whom did he curse, that they would never enter his rest, other than those who disobeyed (Numbers 14:29-35)? <sup>19</sup> We know that they were not allowed to enter because of their suspicion.

Enter his resting place.

<sup>4</sup> So, we must be afraid so that we will not miss the promise to enter his resting place. Some of you might be thinking about skipping out. <sup>2</sup> We received the good news just like they also did. However, the message they heard did not benefit them because they did not join in trust with those who listened.

<sup>3</sup> For we believers are entering his resting place. Just like he said,  
So I swore by my Anger,  
‘They will never enter my resting place’ (Psalm 95:11).

Still, his actions have come to pass since the creation of the universe.

<sup>4</sup> For he spoke somewhere about the seventh day,  
God rested from all his work on the seventh day (Genesis 2:2).

<sup>5</sup> But yet here,  
They will never enter my resting place (Psalm 95:11).

<sup>6</sup> Therefore, since some are still allowed to enter it, but those who heard the previous good news did not enter because of their disobedience, <sup>7</sup> then also he designated a particular day, namely, Today. Later on, he spoke through David, just like it was stated before,

If can you hear his voice today,  
then do not harden your hearts (Psalm 95:7-8).

<sup>8</sup> If Joshua let them rest, he would not be speaking about another day after these things (Joshua 21:44, 22:4).

<sup>9</sup> There is still a sabbath for the people of God. <sup>10</sup> Whoever “enters his resting place” has stopped working. Just like that, God did the same thing (Genesis 2:2). <sup>11</sup> That is why we have to hurry to enter that resting place—so, in the same way, no one will have to die as an example because of their disobedience.

*The word of God is alive.*

<sup>12</sup> So, the word of God is alive and effective. It is sharper than any double-sided sword. It penetrates so deep that it divides not just soul and spirit, but also joints and marrow. It knows the different thoughts and ideas of the heart. <sup>13</sup> Nothing in creation is invisible to him. But, everything is naked and bare before him. We answer to him.

*We have a great high priest.*

*He can sympathize.*

<sup>14</sup> Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the son of God, we must keep our confession. <sup>15</sup> For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses. He has been tested in all the same ways, but he is still without sin. <sup>16</sup> Therefore, we can approach the throne of kindness with boldness. Then we can receive mercy and kindness. We can find help at just the right time.

*The high priest offers both for the people and himself.*

<sup>51</sup> So, every high priest is human. He is appointed over godly matters on behalf of men. Then he can offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins. <sup>2</sup> He can deal gently with the ignorant and suckers, since he himself is wrapped with weakness. <sup>3</sup> That is why he has to offer for sins, both for the people, but even more for himself. (Leviticus 16:11-19)

*The messiah is a high priest like Melchi-Zedek.*

<sup>4</sup> But, someone cannot give himself honor. Instead, God must select him. Take, for example, Aaron (Exodus 28:1). <sup>5</sup> So, the messiah did not honor himself to become a high priest. Instead, it was the one who said to him,

You are my son.

I have given birth to you today.” (Psalm 2:7)

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We have a great high priest.      The messiah is a high priest like Melchi-Zedek.

<sup>6</sup>Just like it says elsewhere,  
 “You are a priest forever  
 in the succession of Melchi-Zedek.” (Psalm 110:4)

<sup>7</sup>During his lifetime, he issued prayers and requests to the one who could save him from death. He used loud shouts and tears. He was heard because of his respect. <sup>8</sup>Although “he is a son,” he learned from these things how to suffer through obedience. <sup>9</sup>When he was finished, he became the source of eternal salvation for everyone who obeys him. <sup>10</sup>God appointed him “a high priest in the succession of Melchi-Zedek” (Psalm 110:4).

*You have become lazy.*

<sup>11</sup>There is a lot for us to say about this. But it is difficult to talk about it, since you have become too lazy to listen.

<sup>12</sup>You should be teachers by now. But, you still need someone to teach you the simple concepts of the sayings of God again. You have become dependent on milk, not solid food. <sup>13</sup>Anyone who drinks milk is not used to the righteous word, because he is just a baby. <sup>14</sup>But solid food is for the mature. They have trained their minds to know the difference between good and evil.

*Move on to maturity.*

<sup>6</sup><sup>1</sup>So, let go of the simple matters about the messiah. Move on to maturity. <sup>2</sup>Do not dig a foundation of change again from either dead works or trust in God, instruction about either washings or also laying hands, or either the resurrection of the dead or eternal judgment. <sup>3</sup>We will still do this if God really allows it.

<sup>4</sup>It is impossible that we have become enlightened at one time, also tasted the heavenly gift, participated in the holy spirit, <sup>5</sup>and tasted the good word of God and also the powers of the future times, <sup>6</sup>and finally fall away, to then again renew your repentance. We would crucify the son of God for ourselves all over again and publicly shame him.

<sup>7</sup>For the earth absorbs the rain that frequently falls on it. It bears useful plants for everyone. Then, it is farmed for them. It is a blessing from God. <sup>8</sup>But, if it produces thorns and thistles, it is useless and brings a curse nearby. In the end, it gets burned.

<sup>9</sup> We are convinced about you, beloved. You have better things and salvation, even if we talk like this. <sup>10</sup> For God is not so unjust that he has forgotten about your loving conduct. You demonstrate his name by it. You have served the saints, and you are currently serving them.

#### Abraham persisted.

<sup>11</sup> But, we want each one of you to demonstrate the same eagerness toward the assurance of our hope, until the end. <sup>12</sup> So, do not become lazy. Instead, imitate those who have inherited the promises through trust and patience.

<sup>13</sup> God made a promise to Abraham. Since there was no one better to swear by, “he swore by himself.” (Genesis 22:16) <sup>14</sup> He said,

If I really intend to bless you,

then I will actually bless you.

If I really intend to make you increase,

then I will actually make you increase. (Genesis 22:17)

<sup>15</sup> So, since Abraham persisted, he got the promise (Genesis 22:1-18).

<sup>16</sup> Now, men have to swear by someone else greater. A solemn vow settles all matters between them. <sup>17</sup> In the same way, God even more intends to demonstrate his absolute plan for the heirs of the promise. So, he made a guarantee with an oath. <sup>18</sup> So, through two unchangeable things—it is impossible for God to lie about them—we who need protection can take great comfort that we have seized our future hope. <sup>19</sup> It is like an anchor for our soul, consistent and also certain. It can enter the inner curtain.

<sup>20</sup> So, Jesus did an advance entry for us. He became the high “priest forever, in the succession of Melchi-Zedek” (Psalm 110:4).

#### Melchi-Zedek is a priest indefinitely.

<sup>7</sup> <sup>1</sup> Now, this was Melchi-Zedek, king of Salem, priest of the highest God. He met with Abraham. Abraham had just returned from the slaughter of some kings (Genesis 14:13-17). Melchi-Zedek blessed Abraham. <sup>2</sup> Abraham set aside one-tenth of everything for Melchi-Zedek. Melchi-Zedek simply means ‘righteous king’. But he was also the king of Salem, which means ‘king of peace’. <sup>3</sup> He has no known father, mother, ancestors, origin, nor end of life. Yet by Melchi-Zedek becoming like a son of God, he remains a priest indefinitely. <sup>4</sup> But, observe how im-

portant he was: Abraham the chief gave him a tenth of his loot. (Genesis 14:18-20)

<sup>5</sup>The sons of Levi are assigned the priesthood. They have a command for the people to pay a tenth, according to the law (Deuteronomy 14:22-23). This applies to their brothers, even though they have all proceeded from the loins of Abraham. <sup>6</sup> But, even though Melchi-Zedek does not trace his ancestry from them, Abraham still paid the tenth. He blessed the one who had the promises. <sup>7</sup> It is beyond any disagreement that the inferior is blessing the greater. <sup>8</sup> One group of men who received the tenth are dead, while another one is presumed alive. <sup>9</sup> In a manner of speaking, through Abraham, even though Levi received a tenth, he already paid his tenth. <sup>10</sup> Because, he was still in the loins of his father, when Melchi-Zedek met with him.

#### Another priest rose up like Melchi-Zedek.

<sup>11</sup> So, if the fulfillment was through the priesthood of Levi—for the people have received the law by it—why is there still a need for another priest to rise up “in the succession of Melchi-Zedek”? He is not included in the succession of Aaron. <sup>12</sup> So, out of necessity, the priesthood changed. By law it became different.

<sup>13</sup> For these things regard someone who belongs to another tribe. No one from that tribe has offered at the altar. <sup>14</sup> It is obvious that our lord rose up out of Judah. Moses said nothing about priests from that tribe.

<sup>15</sup> This is still even clearer, if another priest rises up the same way as Melchi-Zedek. <sup>16</sup> He did not become priest by the rule of a human command, but by the power of an endless life. <sup>17</sup> Because it has been testified,  
You are a priest forever

in the succession of Melchi-Zedek (Psalm 110:4).

<sup>18</sup> On one hand, the previous command has become null because of its weakness and uselessness. <sup>19</sup> The law completed nothing. But, it did introduce a better hope. We approach God through it.

<sup>20</sup>In most cases, it was not oathless—usually, they become priests without an oath. <sup>21</sup>But in this case, it was with an oath, through the one who said to him,

The lord swore,  
and he is not going to change his mind.  
‘You are a priest forever.’ (Psalm 110:4)

Jesus offered himself.

<sup>22</sup>So, Jesus has guaranteed a much better deal.

<sup>23</sup>One one hand, many people become priests because death keeps them from continuing. <sup>24</sup>But, because he lasts forever, he gets a permanent priesthood. <sup>25</sup>So, he is able to completely save those who approach God through him. He is always alive to represent them.

<sup>26</sup>This kind of high priest is just right for us: holy, innocent, pure. He is without sin. He became higher than the heavens. <sup>27</sup>He is not required to do like the high priests on a daily basis. They used to offer sacrifices on the altar for their own sins, then for the sins of the people. He did this once and for all by offering himself. <sup>28</sup>So, even though the law appointed men as priests who were weak, the word sworn after the law appoints a son. He is made complete forever.

<sup>8</sup><sup>1</sup> But, in conclusion, as stated, we have such a great high priest. “He sat down at the right side” (Psalm 110:1) of the throne of his majesty in heaven. <sup>2</sup>He is a servant for the holy places, which is the true tent. The lord pitched that tent, not a man. <sup>3</sup>For every high priest is appointed to bring both offerings and sacrifices. Because, he is required to have something to offer.

<sup>4</sup>Now, if Jesus was living on the earth, then he would not be a priest. Because, the priests already present offerings according to the law. <sup>5</sup>They are just examples. They just worship a shadow of heaven.

Just like Moses was warned when he was about to finish the tent,  
‘Now look.’ For he says, ‘Make sure you do everything the way  
you were told on the mountain.’ (Exodus 25:40)

*He is an agent for a better deal.*

He canceled the old deal.

<sup>6</sup>But now, he has received a completely different service. He is an agent for a much better deal. It sits on much better promises. <sup>7</sup>Because if the first one was faultless, there would be no need to seek a second one.

<sup>8</sup>Since it was lacking, he told them,

“Look. The time is coming,”

says the lord,

“I will make a new deal

with the house of Israel and Judah.

<sup>9</sup>It will not be like the deal

that I made with their fathers.

On that day that I took them by their hand

to lead them out of the country Egypt.

They did not stick with my deal.

So, I stopped worrying about them,”

says the lord.

<sup>10</sup>“I will make a deal with the house of Israel after that time,”

says the lord.

“I will put my laws in their minds.

I will write them on their hearts.

I will be their God.

They will be my people.

<sup>11</sup>No one will have to teach

each of his fellow-citizens and brothers,

saying, ‘Know the lord!’

Everyone will already know me,

from the least to the greatest.

<sup>12</sup>I will be merciful about their unrighteousness.

I will not remember their sins anymore.” (Jeremiah 31:31-34)

<sup>13</sup>By speaking about a new deal, he has canceled the old one. Sometimes, something so canceled and old has almost disappeared.

The first deal had rules.

<sup>9</sup><sup>1</sup> So, the first deal had rules for worship and also the physical holy place. <sup>2</sup> The first tent (Exodus 26:1-37) was built with a place for the

lampstand (Exodus 25:31-40), the table (Exodus 25:23-29), and also the prepared bread (Exodus 25:30). This is called the Holy Place.<sup>3</sup> Beyond the second curtain, there is a place in the tent called the Most Holy Place.<sup>4</sup> It contains a golden incense altar and the chest containing the agreement. The chest was completely covered with gold. It contains a golden jar of manna, the budding rod of Aaron, and the tablets of the agreement.<sup>5</sup> The wonderful creatures beside the mercy seat were on its lid. (Exodus 26:31-34) It is not possible to speak about these things right now, except in part.

<sup>6</sup>When these things were constructed, the priests continuously entered the first tent to conduct worship.<sup>7</sup> But, just the high priest alone enters the second tent only once each year. He always has to shed blood. He offers it both for himself, but also for the unknown sins of the people. (Exodus 25:1-26:37)<sup>8</sup> The holy spirit makes this clear: The way into the holy places was not yet revealed while the first tent is still standing.<sup>9</sup> This is a metaphor for the current time. This is how they present both the offerings and sacrifices. They are unable to clear the conscience of the servant.<sup>10</sup> They just concern foods, drinks, and special washings. These were physical rules imposed until the correct time.

He is the agent of a new deal.

<sup>11</sup>But, the messiah has arrived as the high priest of good things that have come. He came through a better and more complete tent—it was not handmade. It is not part of this creation.<sup>12</sup> Nor was it through the blood of goats and bulls. Instead, it was through his own blood. He entered the holy places, once and for all. He secured a permanent redemption.<sup>13</sup> Now, if the blood of goats and bulls, or the ashes of a heifer sprinkled over defiled people, can make someone holy so that they become physically pure,<sup>14</sup> then how much more can the blood of the messiah? By the eternal spirit, he offered himself to God blamelessly. He will clean our conscience from dead conduct to worship the living God.<sup>15</sup> This is why he is the agent of a new deal. Since he died to redeem misconduct from the first deal, those selected can receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

<sup>16</sup>In the case of a will, it is required for a death to occur for it to take effect.<sup>17</sup> That is because a will is only in force against dead people. It

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He is an agent for a better deal.

He is the agent of a new deal.

cannot go into effect while the one who signed it is still alive.<sup>18</sup> So, the first deal has not been implemented without blood—<sup>19</sup> every command Moses spoke in the law applied to all the people. He took the blood of bulls with water, scarlet wool, and the antiseptic. He sprinkled both the book itself, but also all the people.<sup>20</sup> He said,

This is the blood of the deal. God commanded you by it. (Exodus 24:8)

<sup>21</sup> But then, in the same way, he sprinkled the tent and all the vessels of worship with the blood.

<sup>22</sup> Just about everything is made clean by blood, according to the law. Forgiveness cannot happen without some blood spilling.<sup>23</sup> Therefore, it is necessary to have copies of the heavenly things for anything to be made clean by them. But, the heavenly realities themselves require better sacrifices than the copies—<sup>24</sup> the messiah entered non-handmade holy places—they are just copies of the realities. Instead, he entered heaven itself.

He appears now before God for our sake.<sup>25</sup> So, he does not have to repeatedly present himself. This is unlike the way the high priest has to enter the holy places every year with the blood of someone else.<sup>26</sup> Then it would be necessary for him to suffer over and over since the creation of world. But now, he has appeared, once and for all, at the end of time, to cancel sins by his sacrifice.<sup>27</sup> In every case, there is a time for men to die once. After this, there is the judgment.<sup>28</sup> So also, the messiah was offered once to take up the sins of many. He will be seen a second time, without sin. They wait for him to gain salvation.

<sup>10</sup><sup>1</sup> Now the law is just a shadow of the good things to come. But, it is not the same image of the reality. The same annual sacrifices exist. They repeatedly offer the sacrifices, but they can never fulfill those who present them.<sup>2</sup> Otherwise, would they not stop having offering them? Then no one would have a sinful conscience any more. Those who worship would become pure once and for all.

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He is an agent for a better deal.

He is the agent of a new deal.

<sup>3</sup> Instead, there is the memory of sin in those annual sacrifices. <sup>4</sup> The blood of bulls and goats cannot remove sin. <sup>5</sup> This is why when he enters the world, he says,

You did not want sacrifice and offering.

Instead, you prepared a body for me.

<sup>6</sup> You get no pleasure from burnt offerings and sin offerings.

<sup>7</sup> Then I said, 'Look, I am coming.

It has been written in a scroll of the book about me.

I want to do your will, O God.'" (Psalm 40:6-8)

<sup>8</sup> He says before,

You do not want sacrifices, offerings, burnt offerings,  
and offerings for sins.

You get no pleasure." (Psalm 40:6)

They are still brought according to the law. <sup>9</sup> Then he said,

Look, I am coming. I want to do your will. (Psalm 40:8)

He cancels the first deal so he can establish the second one. <sup>10</sup> We are made holy by this, according to his will, through the offering of the body of Jesus the messiah, once and for all time.

<sup>11</sup> Every priest conducts daily services. He does the same things repeatedly by presenting sacrifices. But they can never remove sins. <sup>12</sup> But now, he has offered a single sacrifice for all time.

He sat down at the right side of God (Psalm 110:1).

<sup>13</sup> In the meanwhile, he is waiting "until his enemies can be placed under his footstool." (Psalm 110:1) <sup>14</sup> For with a single offering, he is done making them holy for all time. <sup>15</sup> But the holy spirit also testifies to us, because after saying,

<sup>16</sup> "This is the deal

that I will make with them after that time," says the lord.

"I will put my laws on their hearts.

I will write them on their minds.

<sup>17</sup> I will not remember their sins

or unlawful acts ever again." (Jeremiah 31:33-34)

<sup>18</sup> However, wherever these things are forgiven, there is no need to present an offering for sin any more. <sup>19</sup> Therefore, by the blood of Jesus, you can be sure, brothers, about access into the holy places. <sup>20</sup> He started a fresh and living way for us through the curtain—meaning, through his

flesh.<sup>21</sup> Now we have such a mighty priest over the house of God,<sup>22</sup> that we can approach with a sincere heart with confidence from trust. He sprinkled our hearts from an evil conscience. He washed our body with pure water.<sup>23</sup> We can hang on to the confession of our hope without wavering because the one who promised is honest.

*Provoke each other to do good.*

<sup>24</sup> Figure out how to provoke each other to love and do good.<sup>25</sup> Do not stop meeting with each other—some of you have developed that habit. Instead, urge each other. Take care that you do it even more as the Day comes near.

<sup>26</sup> If we sin on purpose after we received the knowledge of the truth, then then no sacrifice for our sins exists anymore.<sup>27</sup> Instead, some kind of fearful expectation of both judgment and also a raging fire will consume his enemies.<sup>28</sup> Anyone who rejects the law of Moses will die without pity at the testimony of two or three witnesses (Deuteronomy 17:2-7).<sup>29</sup> How much worse do you think anyone who has trampled over the son of God will deserve the punishment? He treated the blood of the deal as if it was nasty, even though it made him holy. He insults the spirit of favor.

<sup>30</sup> We know what he said,

Revenge belongs to me. I will repay. (Deuteronomy 32:35)

Again,

The lord will judge his people (Deuteronomy 32:36).

<sup>31</sup> It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

<sup>32</sup> Remember the past times, when you experienced huge challenges. You put up with suffering.<sup>33</sup> Sometimes you were bullied with insults and other troubles. At other times you became partners with others who were treated this way.<sup>34</sup> You sympathized with those in prison. You expected the confiscation of your possessions with pleasure. You knew that you yourselves were going to get a better and lasting possession.<sup>35</sup> Therefore, do not throw your confidence away. It has a great reward.<sup>36</sup> You need

endurance so that you can do the will of God. Then you can receive the promise.

<sup>37</sup> In just a little while, (Isaiah 26:20)

the one who is coming will arrive.

He is not going to delay. (Habakkuk 2:3)

<sup>38</sup> “However, my righteous one will live by trust.

If he did withdraw,

I would not be happy with him.” (Habakkuk 2:4)

<sup>39</sup> But, we are not worried about destruction. We are going to gain life by being trustworthy.

*We have a great collection of witnesses.*

Trust is evidence.

<sup>11</sup> <sup>1</sup> But, trust is the foundation of hope. It is the evidence of invisible things. <sup>2</sup> The ancients are recognized for this.

God created the universe by speaking.

<sup>3</sup> By trust, we understand that God created the universe by speaking. What is visible came to exist from invisible things. (Genesis 1:1)

Abel presented a better sacrifice.

<sup>4</sup> By trust, Abel presented a better sacrifice to God than Cain. This confirmed that he was righteous. He testifies by his presents to God. (Genesis 4:3-10) Even though he died for it, he still is speaking.

Enoch was pleasing to God.

<sup>5</sup> By trust, God took Enoch away, but he did not experience death.

Nobody could find him, because God took him (Genesis 5:24).

Before he took him away, Enoch was confirmed “pleasing to God” (Genesis 5:24).

<sup>6</sup> But without trust, it is impossible to please him, because it is necessary to trust in order to approach God. That is because he actually exists—he also rewards those who seek him.

Noah built a boat.

<sup>7</sup> By trust, God warned Noah about things that no one had yet seen. Because he was careful, he built a boat to save his family. (Genesis 6:13-

22) He condemned the world through that boat. He inherited righteousness by trust.

#### Abraham was waiting for a city.

<sup>8</sup> By trust, Abraham was obedient to travel to another place when requested. Later on, he received it like an inheritance. But, he left, not knowing where he was going. (Genesis 12:1-5) <sup>9</sup> By trust, he lived in the promised country as a foreigner. He lived in tents with his coheirs of the same promise, Isaac and Jacob (Genesis 35:12). <sup>10</sup> He was waiting for a city built with foundations. God is the designer and builder of that city.

<sup>11</sup> By trust, although Sarah herself could not become pregnant, she became able to have children, even though she was too old. (Genesis 18:11-14) Abraham considered the one who made the promise to be legitimate (Genesis 15:6). <sup>12</sup> So, from one man, they gave birth. These things happened to someone who was going to die,

They will be as numerous as the stars in the sky,  
and as many as the sand on the seashore (Genesis 22:17).

<sup>13</sup> They all died within the faith. They did not get the promises. But, they could see them from a distance. They welcomed them. They admitted that they are strangers and aliens in the country (Genesis 23:4).

<sup>14</sup> Those who say things like this show that they are looking for homeland. <sup>15</sup> If they could remember the place which they left, they could have had time to go back. <sup>16</sup> But now they want a better homeland—it is a heavenly place. So, God is not ashamed of them. God invited them, because he prepared a city for them.

<sup>17</sup> By trust, Abraham offered Isaac when tested. He had received the promise, but still offered his only son. (Genesis 22:1-10) <sup>18</sup> He was told,

Your descendants will be named through Isaac (Genesis 21:12).

<sup>19</sup> He realized that God can also raise anyone from death. So, by analogy, he also received him back.

#### Isaac and Jacob regarded the future.

<sup>20</sup> By trust, Isaac also blessed Jacob and Esau regarding the future (Genesis 27:27-29, 27:38-40).

<sup>21</sup> By trust, when Jacob was dying, he blessed each of the sons of Joseph (Genesis 48:12-16).

Then he bowed on the end of his cane (Genesis 47:31).

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We have a great collection of witnesses. Isaac and Jacob regarded the future.

Joseph remembered the exodus.

<sup>22</sup>By trust, when Joseph was dying, he remembered the exodus of the sons of Israel. He gave instructions about what to do with his bones. (Genesis 50:24-26)

Moses preferred what was invisible.

<sup>23</sup>By trust, when Moses was born, his parents hid him for three months (Exodus 2:2), because they saw the child was special. They were not afraid of the rule of the king (Exodus 1:22).

<sup>24</sup>By trust, when Moses became a great man, he refused to be considered a son of the daughter of Pharaoh (Exodus 2:10-12). <sup>25</sup>Instead, he preferred to suffer with the people of God than to enjoy the pleasure of sin for a little while. <sup>26</sup>He considered the insult of the messiah more valuable than the treasures of Egypt. He was paying careful attention to the reward.

<sup>27</sup>By trust, he left Egypt (Exodus 2:15). He was not afraid of the anger of the king. Like a perceptive man, he preferred what is invisible. <sup>28</sup>By trust, he performed the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, so that the one who destroys the first born would not touch theirs (Exodus 12:21-30).

<sup>29</sup>By trust, they crossed the Red Sea like it was dry ground. When the Egyptians tried, it swallowed them up. (Exodus 14:21-31)

They circled around Jericho.

<sup>30</sup>By trust, the walls of Jericho fell when they circled around them for seven days (Joshua 6:12-21).

Rahab welcomed the spies.

<sup>31</sup>By trust, Rahab the prostitute was not destroyed with the unbelievers. She welcomed the spies peacefully (Joshua 6:21-25).

They still did not get the promise.

<sup>32</sup>So, what else can I say? For time will escape me if I try to talk about Gideon (Judges 6-8), Barak (Judges 4-5), Samson (Judges 13-16), Jephthah (Judges 11-12), David (1 Samuel 16-2 Samuel 24), Samuel (1 Samuel 1:19-16:13), and also the prophets.

<sup>33</sup>Through trust, they conquered kingdoms, practiced righteousness, received promises, shut the mouths of lions (Daniel 6:1-27), <sup>34</sup>put out

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We have a great collection of witnesses.      They still did not get the promise.

raging fire (Daniel 3:23-25), escaped the edges of the sword, were healed from sickness, became mighty in war, and escaped from foreign armies.

<sup>35</sup> Women received their dead back by resurrection (1 Kings 17:8-24, 2 Kings 4:18-37). Others were tortured, not expecting any rescue, so that they could experience a better resurrection.

<sup>36</sup> Others experienced trials of mocking and beating. Still others were in chains and prison. <sup>37</sup> They were stoned (2 Chronicles 24:21), sawed in half, murdered to death by the sword, traveled around wearing sheepskins and goatskins (2 Kings 1:8), poor, persecuted, and mistreated.

<sup>38</sup> The world did not deserve them. They wandered in deserts, on mountains, in caves (1 Kings 18:4, 19:9), and in holes in the ground (Jeremiah 38:6-13). <sup>39</sup> Even though they were all recognized because of their trust, they still did not get the promise.

God provided something better for us.

<sup>40</sup> God has provided something even better for us, so that these things could not be finished without us.

<sup>12</sup><sup>1</sup> Since such a great collection of witnesses surrounds us, we have to get rid of all the burden and the sin that so easily traps. We have to run the race ahead with endurance.

*I have written to you briefly.*

Look at Jesus.

<sup>2</sup> Look at the starter and finisher of trust, Jesus. In exchange for the joy lying in front of him, he submitted to a cross. He ignored its shame. He certainly “sat down at the right side” (Psalm 110:1) of the throne of God. <sup>3</sup> Consider that he has endured such hostility against himself from sinners, so that when your soul is worn out, you might not get tired. <sup>4</sup> For you have not yet resisted to the point of bleeding while you struggle against sin.

Submit to punishment.

<sup>5</sup> You have forgotten the challenge disclosed to you as sons,  
My son, do not think lightly of the punishment of the lord.  
Do not get tired of his correction.

<sup>6</sup> For the lord punishes those he loves.  
He spans every son that he accepts. (Proverbs 3:11-12)

<sup>7</sup> Submit to his punishment. God treats you like sons. What son does a father not punish? <sup>8</sup> If you get no punishment, which every child normally shares, then you are illegitimate, not sons. <sup>9</sup> We definitely had natural fathers who punish, and we respected them. Should we not submit to the father of spirits even more, and then live? <sup>10</sup> For they punished us for a little while according to what seemed best to them. But he gives us the benefit, so that we can share in his holiness. <sup>11</sup> In the moment, any punishment does not feel pleasant. It bothers us. But later, for those who are trained by it, it pays back with the victorious fruit of righteousness. <sup>12</sup> Therefore,

Straighten out your limp hands and weak knees (Isaiah 35:3).

<sup>13</sup> Take smooth steps with your feet (Proverbs 4:26),  
so that the lame limb will not get twisted. Instead, it can be healed.

*Do not be immoral.*

<sup>14</sup> Pursue peace with everyone. Pursue holiness. Without it, no one will see the lord. <sup>15</sup> Make sure that no one falls short of the favor of God. "Make sure that no bitter root springs up to cause trouble" (Deuteronomy 29:18), and then corrupts a bunch of people.

<sup>16</sup> Do not allow anyone to be sexually immoral or impure like Esau. He traded his own inheritance just for a single meal (Genesis 25:29-34).

<sup>17</sup> You know that afterwards, he wanted to inherit the blessing that he rejected. But, he did not find a way to change it, although he sought the blessing with tears. (Genesis 27:1-41)

*You have approached Zion Mountain.*

<sup>18</sup> For you have not approached something you can touch, <sup>19</sup> with burning fire, in darkness, with gloom, in a storm, a trumpet blast, or with a sound of speech. They did hear it. They refused to continue with another word. <sup>20</sup> They could not bear the command. (Exodus 19:16-19, 20:18-21)

If a wild beast touches the mountain,  
it has to be stoned (Exodus 19:12-13).

<sup>21</sup> The scene was so scary, Moses said,

I am terrified and trembling (Deuteronomy 9:19).

<sup>22</sup> However, you have approached Zion Mountain, the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, ten thousand angels, the feast, <sup>23</sup> the assembly of the firstborn registered in heaven, God, the judge of everyone,

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I have written to you briefly.

You have approached Zion Mountain.

<sup>24</sup> the spirit of those who have become completely righteous, Jesus the agent of a new deal, and the sprinkled blood that speaks louder than Abel.

<sup>25</sup> Watch out: Do not reject the speaker. If those on earth who rejected the one who warned them did not escape, then how much more will we escape if we turn away from the one in heaven? <sup>26</sup> His voice shook the earth then. But now, he promised,

Still one more time, I will not just shake up the earth,  
but also the sky (Haggai 2:6).

<sup>27</sup> Certainly by “still one more time,” it indicates that the removal of what is shaken up—namely, what has been created—so that what is not being shaken up might still remain. <sup>28</sup> Therefore, by receiving an unshakable kingdom, we can have favor. Through that kingdom, we can worship God acceptably with awe and fear.

<sup>29</sup> For our God is a consuming fire (Deuteronomy 4:24).

#### Do not neglect.

<sup>13</sup><sup>1</sup> Brotherly love must remain. <sup>2</sup> Do not neglect hospitality, because some people hosted angels without realizing it (Genesis 18:1-15). <sup>3</sup> Remember the prisoners, as if you were incarcerated with them. Remember the abused, as if you yourself were also being physically abused. <sup>4</sup> Honor marriage in every way. Keep the bed pure, because God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. <sup>5</sup> Have a lifestyle absent of loving money—be content with your current circumstances. He himself said,

I will never leave nor desert you (Deuteronomy 31:6, 31:8).

<sup>6</sup> So, we are confident to say,  
The lord is my helper.  
I will not be afraid.

What can a man do to me? (Psalm 118:6)

<sup>7</sup> Remember your leaders. They spoke the word of God to you. Watch the effect of their conduct. Imitate their trust. <sup>8</sup> Jesus the messiah is the same both yesterday, today, and forever. <sup>9</sup> Do not get carried away with lots of strange teachings. It is good for the heart to stay firm in favor, not in food rules—those who live by them get no benefit.

We seek the city to come.

<sup>10</sup>We have an altar—those who worship in the tent have no right to eat from it. <sup>11</sup>So, for their sake, the high priest brings the animal blood into the holy places for sin. They burn the bodies *outside* the camp. (Exodus 29:10-14)

<sup>12</sup>This is what Jesus also did, so that he could make the people holy through his own blood. He suffered outside the gate of the city. <sup>13</sup>So then, we can go out to him outside the gate of the city. We experience his abuse.

<sup>14</sup>We have no city left here. We seek the city to come. <sup>15</sup>Through him, we should continuously present a sacrifice of praise to God. It is the fruit of our lips: Confessing his name. <sup>16</sup>But, do not neglect good deeds and fellowship. God will be pleased with such sacrifices.

Pray for us.

<sup>17</sup>Obey your leaders. Submit to them. They are restless about your souls like someone who has to settle an account, so that they can do it with joy. They do not groan, because it benefits you.

<sup>18</sup>Pray for us. We are convinced that we have a good conscience. We want to conduct ourselves honorably in every way. <sup>19</sup>I urge you to do this even more so that I can come visit you even sooner.

<sup>20</sup>The God of peace brought back from the dead the great shepherd of the sheep by the blood of a permanent deal. He is our lord, Jesus. <sup>21</sup>He will prepare you to do his will in every good thing. He provokes in us what is pleasing to him through Jesus the messiah. May he have glory forever. Truly.

<sup>22</sup>I urge you, brothers—be content with this message of encouragement. For I have written to you briefly. <sup>23</sup>You should know that our brother Timothy has been released. After this, if he can get here soon, I will come see you. <sup>24</sup>Greet all your leaders and all the holy people. Those from Italy greet you. <sup>25</sup>May every one of you gain favor.

Pray for us.

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